

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit that no prohibited new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment and that claims 13 to 24 are drawn to the same invention as claims 1-12 of International Application PCT/FR00/02698. The changes to the claims represent changes in formalities so as to bring the claims into compliance with the rules of practice in the United States, such as: the removal of improper multiply dependent claims; to provide established claim terminology to describe the intended scope of the claims, i.e. incorporation of the terms "comprising" and "wherein" rather than "containing" and "characterized in that" (see claims 1-12), and to present established Markush grouping language in claim 12. These changes do not narrow the claimed subject matter presented and examined in the corresponding International Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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